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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/645,690 | 08/24/2000 | Lizhong Sun | 4215/PDD/CMP/RKK | 4428 |
| 7. | 590 03/20/2003 | | | |
| PATENT COUNSEL APPLIED MATERIALS. INC P.O. BOX 450A | | EXAMINER | | |
| | | | WINTER, C | SENTLE E |
| SANTA CLAR | A, CA 95052 | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1746 | |
| | | DATE MAILED: 03/20/2003 | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

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|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | 1 C | | | | |
| Advisory Action | 09/645,690 | SUN ET AL. | • | | | | |
| Advisory Action | Examiner | Art Unit | | | | | |
| | Gentle E. Winter | 1746 | | | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address | | | | | | | |
| THE REPLY FILED FAILS TO PLACE THIS APP Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1 condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appea Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. |) a timely filed amendment whicl | ation. A proper reply h places the applica | tion in | | | | |
| PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)] | | | | | | | |
| a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing da b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WA 706.07(f). Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Off timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 | Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing S FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF The date on which the petition under 37 CF of extension and the corresponding amo the shortened statutory period for reply ice later than three months after the mail | g date of the final rejection HE FINAL REJECTION. R 1.136(a) and the apprount of the fee. The appropriationally set in the final of | on. See MPEP opriate extension opriate extension Office action; or | | | | |
| 1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on Appellant' 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CF | | | | | | | |
| 2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because: | | | | | | | |
| (a) ☑ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below); | | | | | | | |
| (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below); | | | | | | | |
| (c) Ithey are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or | | | | | | | |
| (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. | | | | | | | |
| NOTE: <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . | | | | | | | |
| 3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): | | | | | | | |
| 4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) would canceling the non-allowable claim(s). | l be allowable if submitted in a se | eparate, timely filed a | amendment | | | | |
| 5. ☐ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☐ request fo application in condition for allowance because: _ | | dered but does NO | Γ place the | | | | |
| 6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered becaraised by the Examiner in the final rejection. | cause it is not directed SOLELY to | o issues which were | newly | | | | |
| 7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended. | | | | | | | |
| The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows: | | | | | | | |
| Claim(s) allowed: | | | | | | | |
| Claim(s) objected to: | | | | | | | |
| Claim(s) rejected: | | | | | | | |
| Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: | | | | | | | |
| 8. The proposed drawing correction filed on is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner. | | | | | | | |
| 9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s) | | | | | | | |
| 10. Other: | | | | | | | |

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Continuation Sheet (PTO-303)



Continuation of 2. NOTE:

Notwithstanding the statement that applicant's have amended the claims to "more clearly recite the claimed aspect of the invention, to merely restate elements already in the claims..." is not consistent with this examiner's perceptions. For instance the changing of the pH range in claim 4, appears to be a narrowing of the claim scope for the purposes of overcoming the Small reference and thus necessitating a further search and potentially, after such a seach, placing the claim in position for allowance, and in any case requiring the withdrawal of the currently pending 35 USC § 102(b) rejection.

Applicant's arguments and amendments are substantially cumulative or could properly have been presented prior to the Final action.

RANDY GULAKOWSKI SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700